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The Cascapedia Club



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NEW DERREEN

**THE
CASCAPEDIA CLUB**

**COMPLIMENTS OF
F. GRAY GRISWOLD**



**PRIVATELY PRINTED
1920**

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THE PLIMPTON PRESS

NORWOOD

MASS

U.S

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THE GRAND CASCAPEDIA RIVER

“GREAT FISH ARE CAUGHT IN GREAT WATERS”

THE GRAND CASCAPEDIA RIVER *

IN the far northern wilderness of the Province of Quebec are the sources of two streams which form the headwaters of the Grand Cascapedia river. The Lake Branch rises in Lake Cascapedia and flows from this lake a distance of eighteen miles before joining its companion the Salmon Branch, whose source is many miles farther north.

The meeting of these two streams at the celebrated Forks Pool is the beginning of the main stream of the Grand Cascapedia river.

From Lazy Bogan, which is a short distance below the Forks Pool, the river passes through a most beautiful mountainous country; it is fed by numerous brooks

* The Indian name from which Cascapedia is derived is Gascapegiag and means Wide River.

and its banks are covered by a thick virgin forest of fir trees and birches. It is a fast-running stream with many rapids but no falls and is about eighty miles in length from its source to where it empties into the Bay of Chaleurs.

This bay was named by Cartier who welcomed its genial climate after his voyage through the ice-fields.

There is a road along the left bank of the river for fifty miles which was constructed in part by the Cascapedia Club in 1914 in order to preserve the spawning beds from horse-drawn scows employed in taking provisions to the lumber camps.

The upper river and its branches are the spawning grounds of countless salmon and sea-trout, for the Grand Cascapedia is justly celebrated for its salmon fishing and holds the record for the heaviest average weight of fish among the Canadian rivers.

The salmon spawn during the latter part of October and early in November and the spawning grounds are chiefly above Middle



MIDDLE CAMP

Camp, at Lazy Bogan, and in the Lake and Salmon branches.

The river was fished in early days by numerous anglers, among the number being President Arthur, who was a keen fisherman.

From 1878-93 the fishing was at the disposal of the succeeding Governors-General of Canada—namely, that part of the water which is now leased by the Cascapedia Club, for the land and fishing rights of the first fifteen miles of the Grand Cascapedia belong to individual owners.

It was fished by the Marquis of Lorne from 1878-83, by Lord Lansdowne from 1883-88, and by Lord Stanley from 1888-93. Lord Aberdeen succeeded Lord Stanley as Governor-General and, not being an angler, renounced all claim to the fishing.

In 1893 the fishing rights and three chains of woodland on each side of the river were leased to the Cascapedia Club for a term of years.

The Club consisted of the following original members:

JOHN L. CADWALADER
 E. W. DAVIS
 R. G. DUN
 HENRY W. DE FOREST
 H. B. HOLLINS
 Dr. S. WEIR MITCHELL
 PHILIP SCHUYLER
 J. J. VAN ALLEN

The Club was limited to eight members.

The following members have been elected since 1894:

JOHN S. KENNEDY
 F. G. BOURNE
 HENRY C. FRICK
 ROBERT W. DE FOREST, Member, 1920
 Dr. CHARLES MCBURNEY —————
 WILLIAM DE F. HAYNES, Member, 1920
 EDWARD W. SHELDON, “ “
 HAMILTON F. KEAN, “ “
 W. EMLÉN ROOSEVELT, “ “
 F. GRAY GRISWOLD, “ “
 CHILDS FRICK, “ “

In 1915 the membership was reduced to seven members by the purchase and retirement of Mr. Cadwalader's share.

The main Club House is at New Derreen, so named by Lord Lansdowne who caused



TRACADIE

the first house to be built at this chosen spot and named it after his sporting estate in Ireland.

Opposite the Club House is the river Escuminac. It formerly contained many salmon but the fishing was destroyed by the dam of a saw-mill.

Eight miles above New Derreen is a three-rod station called Middle Camp, and at sixteen miles there is accommodation for two anglers at Tracadie.

Lazy Bogan, the last camp on the river, is twenty odd miles farther up the stream.

The Club has over forty miles of fishing and more than fifty salmon pools.

CLUB RULES

DIVISION OF WATER

At New Derreen and Middle Camp the number of rods shall not exceed four at each station, and at Tracadie, shall not exceed two.

As between New Derreen and Middle Camp, when both are occupied, and as between Middle Camp and Tracadie, when both are occupied, the water shall be apportioned as follows: New Derreen, from the lower Club line to the head of Dimock's

pool; Middle Camp, from the latter point to the head of Big Jonathan; Tracadie, all above, to the foot of Indian Falls.

Any member shall have the right to fish for three consecutive days at any station not fully occupied, at the expiration of which any other member shall have the right to occupy the same for a like period of three days. A member who shall not have previously fished a station shall in all cases have preference over one having already fished such station.

The fishing at each station shall be divided by the members present, and the first order of choice shall be determined by lot, after which, the fishing shall be taken in rotation, the occupants of the upper pools of the station moving on the succeeding day to the pools next below.

All drawing for or distribution of water shall occur at the camp or club house located thereon.

LIMIT OF CATCH

No member shall fish for salmon on club waters more than thirty days, or parts of days, during any one fishing season, nor shall any member take or kill more than seventy-five salmon in any season, nor more than eight salmon in any one day.

Members will only be allowed to take twelve (12) fish above Little Berry Mountain Brook.

Fish beached or landed by gaff shall count as fish taken, whether subsequently released or not.

GUESTS

After June 30th a member shall have the right to invite a guest, and divide his fishing with such guest, subject to the following restrictions: One guest only can be so invited in any one season, whose stay shall be limited to the member's stay. Member and guest must in all cases occupy the same station and shall be allowed to fish with one rod and from one boat only. All fish taken by the guest shall be counted as part of the member's score for both season and daily limit.

If any other member or members are present at any camp, a member and his guest shall occupy one room only in case the remaining rooms are required to provide a room for each member.

SALMON POOLS

“ “PASSIONS ARE LIKENED BEST TO POOLS AND
STREAMS;
THE SHALLOWS MURMUR, BUT THE DEEP
ARE DUMB.”



DEWINTON'S POOL

SALMON POOLS

NEW DERREEN

Lower Water

House
Tent
Rock
Ledge
Duthies
Jack the Sailor
Dewinton's
Little Jack the Sailor
Slide
Big Curly
Hole in the Wall
Anson's

Upper Water

Maple
Limestone
Upper Jam Rapids
Lower Jam Rapids
Dimock's

MIDDLE CAMP

Lower Water

"424" (One Half)
Big Picot
Little Picot
Turner's Brook
Stanley's
Big Camp
Little Camp

Upper Water

"424" (One Half)
Moransay
Doctor
Commodore
Van Alen
Captain
Joe Martin
Patterson's
Little Jonathan
Big Jonathan

TRACADIE

<i>Lower Water</i>	<i>Upper Water</i>
Tracadie	McGregor's
Little Tracadie	Josh's Brook
Big John	Charlie Valley
Button Rapids	(Charles Valois)
Long Reach	Lady Florence (Anson)
Lost Channel	Murdock's

ABOVE THE "FALLS"

Head of Falls
 Three Islands
 Big Berry Mountain
 Jerome Farms
 Lazy Bogan
 House
 Parson's
 Forks

The first authentic record of the salmon fishing on the Grand Cascapedia is of the season of 1879.

The Hon. C. Ellis, L. Iveson, and Captain G. A. Percy fished from June 9th to August 15th and Captain Fane, R.N., and Captain Drummond, R.N., from July 25th to August 1st.



BIG CURLEY POOL

Their total score was 647 salmon that weighed 16,288 pounds; 135 of these fish weighed 30 pounds each, or more.

Captain Percy had the best individual day's fishing: 17 fish weighing 465 pounds or an average of 27 pounds.

The party took 6 fish of over 40 pounds each.

THE SCORE

	Fish	Pounds	Fish 30 Pounds and over
ELLIS.....	269	6714	53
IVESON.....	216	5483	48
PERCY.....	137	3451	27
FANE.....	12	305	4
DRUMMOND....	13	335	3
	<hr/> 647	<hr/> 16,288	<hr/> 135

Lord Lansdowne and his friends had the good luck to take 1245 salmon weighing 29,188 pounds in four seasons (1884-87), an average of $23\frac{1}{2}$ pounds; 210 of these fish weighed 30 pounds and over and the heaviest weighed 45 pounds.

Mr. R. G. Dun took a 54-pound salmon

on June 20, 1886, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, 28 inches girth, with a tail spread of 14 inches.

On June 13, 1892, Hon. Victor Stanley landed a 53-pound salmon; and in 1901 Mr. E. W. Davis was credited with a fish weighing 52 pounds.

There was a 54-pound salmon taken in 1920 in the Judge's pool on Mr. Douglas' water, below New Derreen, by Mr. Nadeau.

I had a good day on the New Moon in June, 1920 — eight fish weighing 228 pounds, an average of $28\frac{1}{2}$ pounds.

33, 35, 32, 27, 27, 26, 26, 22 pounds.

There is no doubt that the scores of early days could be duplicated now if as in those days there were no restraint on fishing the upper waters.

During the sixteen years from 1894 to 1909, 3440 salmon were taken on the Club waters.

Of these fish 64 weighed 40 pounds or more; 595 fish weighed from 30 to 40 pounds each and 141 tipped the scales at under 17 pounds. The heaviest fish weighed 52 pounds.



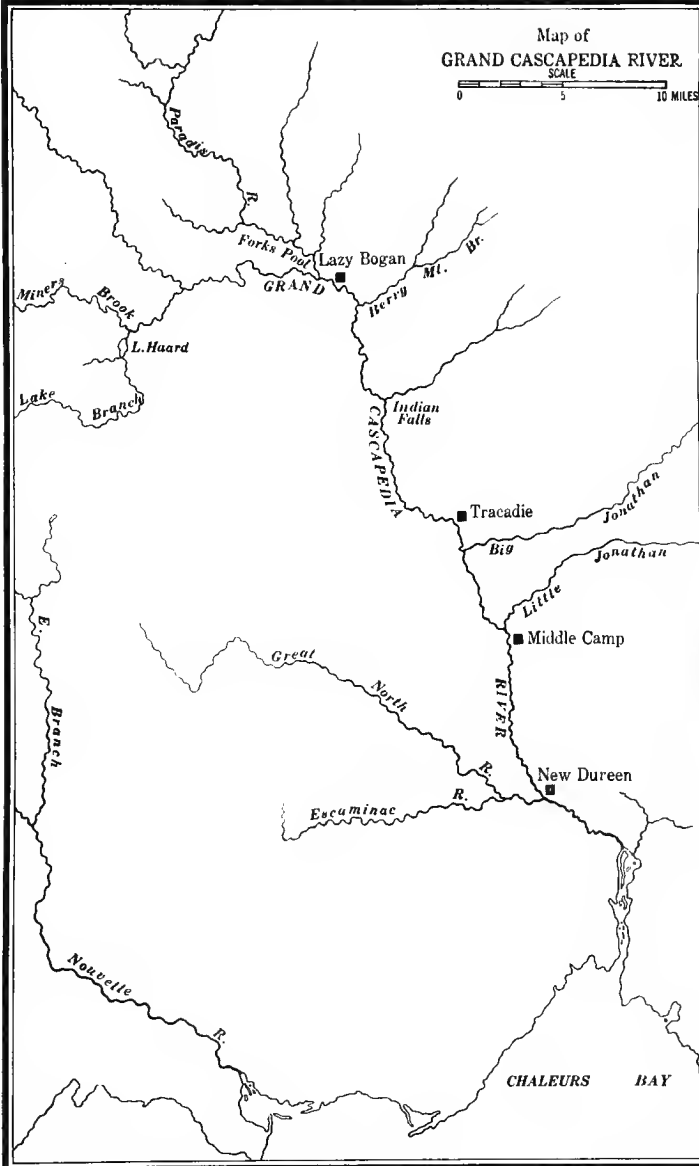
LAZY BOGAN

	Number	40 Lbs. and over	30 to 40 Lbs.	Under 17 Lbs.	Average	Weight in pounds	Heaviest Fish pounds
1910	223	4	42	9	24	5484	43
1911	141	5	38	29	23	3287	45
1912	151	3	19	10	23	3611	46
1913	162	1	32	19	23	3755	43
1914	149	4	23	17	23	3709	47
1915	186	0	15	35	25	3781	34
1916	337	7	65	52	20	7515	47
1917	390	1	89	51	22	8679	40
1918	336	8	92	41	23	7866	43
1919	209	1	42	15	23	4927	39
Total	2284	34	457	278	23	52,614	

1920. 248 salmon, 3 fish over 40 pounds.
60 fish 30 pounds and over.
26 fish under 17 pounds.
Heaviest fish 43 pounds.
Weight 6009 pounds. Average 24
pounds.

Map of
GRAND CASCAPEDIA RIVER

SCALE
0 5 10 MILES



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OBSERVATIONS ON A SALMON RIVER

“ “MEN LIVE LIKE FISHES; THE GREAT ONES
DEVOUR THE SMALL”

OBSERVATIONS ON A SALMON RIVER

Do salmon feed in fresh water?

If not, why do they take the fly?

THESE are questions that will probably never be answered to the satisfaction of all anglers.

It is claimed that salmon come up a river in prime condition and that many remain there for twelve months and return to the sea without having tasted food. There is no doubt that the fish lose weight while in the river and that their adipose matter is reduced just as is the fat of hibernating fish during the winter.

This is a wise provision of nature, for the salmon are on spawning bent. It is a well-known fact that half-starved rabbits are much more prolific than those that are well fed.

Losing weight may also mean that the

food obtainable in the fresh water is not as plentiful or as nourishing as in the sea, yet they may have the young of other fish, worms, small eels and an abundance of insect life for their daily fare.

It is also said that nothing in the way of partly digested food is ever found in a river salmon, yet fish are known to disgorge during their struggles after being hooked.

Salmon fresh from the sea have been examined in great numbers to decide what they feed on. The staple food seems to be herring, though partly digested sand-eels, whiting, and haddock have been also found.

Salmon have been taken in the Grand Cascapedia river containing trout, mice, and other objects of food.

In the receiving pond at the fish hatchery on the Spey in Scotland it is said that the salmon become intermittent in their feeding with the first frosts of autumn and consume very little food in mid-winter, but feed well during warmer weather.

It was also observed that when the

temperature of the water rose above 70° the salmon became listless and in thunder weather they would not rise from the bottom of the pond.

If salmon do not feed why do they rise and take a fly? Why do they pursue all moving objects? Why should a salmon fly be manipulated so as to resemble a moving minnow or insect and why should jungle-cock feathers be the most attractive dressing for a fly if not to attract the light as scales do on a small fish?

One theory is that the salmon enter fresh water for one purpose alone and that they desire to destroy all creatures that may endanger their future young. This would imply much forethought, for the fish enter the Grand Cascapedia in June and do not spawn until November.

Salmon have been known to seize, suck, and eject floating butterflies and other insects. Can it be that they obtain their sustenance by sucking and ejecting their food in fresh water because they cannot

digest solids owing to the changes that occur in the stomach and alimentary canal of the fresh run salmon?

Is it not possible that when a salmon first enters a river he still feels hungry and has not forgotten the feeding habit? He may have a craving for food yet be unable to retain it. This craving may cease after a time yet a rise of water and a change of pool may renew it. The "slink" is supposed to have been in the river for a year, yet he surely shows plenty of "craving."

It is said that salmon are more aggressive than voracious and that it is anger, annoyance, or playfulness that makes them rise to a fly. I have seen them pursue a fly as if in hunger and when they could not be denied.

All anglers will admit that salmon take more readily during the "magic hour" than at any other time. It is quite possible that they may have a preference as to their favorite hour to feed, but is it probable that they are more apt to be annoyed or

angry at sundown than at any other hour of the day?

The general opinion in Scotland at the present day is that there can be no possible doubt but that the salmon do feed in fresh water.

Do the salmon enter fresh water for the sole purpose of spawning?

I believe that they have another reason. Most fish love warm water and enjoy the sunlight — in fact, love to bask in the sun.

After a winter of heavy snowfall the water is cold and the salmon are late in arriving, but if the snowfall is light the fish arrive early.

The lower waters of the Grand Cascapedia being fed by numerous mountain brooks are cold. I found the temperature of the water rose as I went up stream and also that the fish in the upper waters had more life than those I had taken in the cold water below. This lack of energy in fresh run fish may be influenced by the

cold water, or the fish may not have become accustomed to the somewhat sudden change from salt to fresh water, for I have no doubt that they are affected as a man from the lowland would be who suddenly found himself in a high altitude.

A very interesting experiment was tried in Scotland in 1906. "Two grilse were taken from a net in the Bay of Nigg and placed in sea water in a tank at the fish hatchery for the purpose of discovering how long sea lice will remain attached to salmon in fresh water. The density of the water was reduced by allowing fresh water to enter. This operation was regulated so as to represent approximately in time the period of one flood tide. The fish showed *considerable distress* at first, from which it is natural to suppose that the transference to brackish water was too rapid.

"Dating from the time the water was quite fresh the sea lice remained on one fish for four days and on the other for five days." (Calderwood.)

This experiment shows that a fish taken in the upper waters with one or two sea lice attached may have been at least three or four days in passing from the tide.

I believe that, after long winter months in the dark deep sea not very far from the river in which they were spawned, the salmon are inspired in the spring by the flow of water from the rivers to return to fresh water.

There is no doubt that the salmon find warm water congenial. The upper waters of the Grand Cascapedia run through stretches of lowland and are not deep. They are well exposed to the rays of the sun and the bottom of the river is covered with gravel and sand.

At Lazy Bogan in the Parson and Forks pools the fish are found in great numbers. Here they are known to spawn, yet they use many other parts of the river for a like purpose. May it not be the warm water and a summer of light and sunshine that they seek?

